

Section-by-Section Summary of H.R. 1722
TELEWORK ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2010
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

Section 1: Short Title

Provides that the short title of the bill is the Telework Enhancement Act of 2010.

Section 2: Telework

- Directs agency heads to establish a policy within 6 months under which employees may be authorized to telework and to notify every employee of their eligibility to telework.
- Requires written agreements between employees authorized to telework and their managers outlining the specific telework arrangement.
- Incorporates telework into agency continuity of operations plans in the event of an emergency.
- Directs agency heads to ensure that training is provided to all employees who are authorized to telework and their managers.
- Requires the Office of Personnel Management to provide policy guidance to agencies on personnel issues related to telework and to consult with the relevant agencies on issues such as continuation of operations, technology, and the management and preservation of records.
- Requires the OMB Director, in coordination with DHS and NIST, to issue guidelines on security protections for information and information systems used for telework.
- Directs OMB to issue policy guidance requiring executive agencies, when purchasing computer systems, to purchase computer systems that enable and support telework, unless the agency head determines that there is a mission-specific reason not to do so.
- Requires each agency to designate a Telework Managing Officer (TMO) to provide advice to the agency head and the Chief Human Capital Officer on telework and to serve as a resource on telework for managers and employees.
- Requires the Director of OPM to submit an annual report to the Comptroller General, Congress, and OMB that provides information on the degree of participation in telework at each agency.

- Requires the Comptroller General to review the OPM report and submit a report to Congress evaluating the progress of each agency with the meeting its telework goals.
- Prohibits telework in certain situations including if the employee has been disciplined for being absent without permission for more than five days in any calendar year or if the employee has been disciplined for violations related to viewing, downloading, or exchanging pornography on a federal government computer or while performing official federal government duties.

Section 3: Travel Expense Test Programs

Provides the General Services Administration (GSA) with the authority to initiate travel expense test programs. Under such a program an agency may designate and pay any necessary travel expenses for an employee as an alternative to any payment that is set or required under the existing GSA travel regulations. This section specifically requires the Patent and Trademark Office to conduct a test program under this section.

Section 4: Telework Research

Requires the Director of OPM to conduct studies on the use of telework by public and private sector entities that identify best practices and recommendations for the federal government. Provides that the studies and reviews be made available to the public.